XVIII Airborne Corps

Corps Update

Worldwide Chemical Conference 2003

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COL Henry Franke, (910) 396-1005, frankeh@bragg.army.mil

XVIII Abn Corps Operations

- **Readiness**

- **Adaptability**

Operations

- **Operation Enduring Freedom**
  - **Corps HQ, 82d Abn Div (-), 10th Mtn Div (LI) (-) deploy to Afghanistan**
  - **Rotations follow, with 10th Mtn Div (LI) returning**
- **Operation Iraqi Freedom**
  - **3d Inf Div (M), 101st Abn Div (AASLT), 82d Abn Div (-), 2d ACR deploy**
  - **Rotations begin, with 82d Abn Div (-) returning**
- **Delinked both Active and Reserve Component units normally associated with the Corps, as well as internal disassociation**
- **Crisis-response Ready Brigades still required in CONUS**

Pre-Deployment
Setting the Conditions

- **Ensuring the accuracy of Chemical Defense Equipment reporting and status of the Chemical "Battlefield Operating System"**
- **Issuing large quantities of contingency stocks**
  - **Follow-on force rotations impact stockages**
- **Addressing long-term shortfalls in Chemical equipment in units**
- **Submitting Operational/Urgent Need Statements for unique operational shortfalls**
- **Bringing units up to full strength (above the peacetime Authorized Level of Organization) and cross-leveling deployable personnel**

Pre-Deployment
Setting the Conditions

- **Enabling Reserve Component mobilization and integration with the deploying force**
- **Preparing government civilians and contractors with CBRN Defense equipment and training**
- **Training on critical individual and unit tasks before and reinforcing after deployment**
- **Providing a viable Rear Detachment at home station**
- **Installation CBRN force protection**

- **Units bring many of these issues into the theater**

In Theater
(OEF and OIF)

- **Fluid task organizations (multi-Service, multinational) demanded interoperability in communications and early warning**
  - **Ground Command and Control System (GCCS, GCCS-A)**
  - **Army Battle Command System (ABCS) and Maneuver Control System (MCS/MCS-Light)**
  - **Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below (FBCB2)**
  - **Command and Control Personal Computer (C2PC)**
  - **Falcon View**
  - **Blue Force Tracking (BFT)**
  - **Joint Warning and Reporting Network (JWARN)**
- **Noncontiguous battlespaces and nonlinear operations**
  - **Bypassed forces**
  - **Asymmetric threats**
  - **Force protection**

In Theater
(OEF and OIF)

- **Rapid transitions**
  - **Offense-defense**
  - **Support operations, stability operations, post-conflict**
- **Range of operating conditions**
  - **Ports of debarkation and RSOI (reception, staging, onward movement, and integration**
  - **Air and ground rapid maneuver**
  - **Base camps**
  - **Urban areas**
  - **Restricted terrain**
  - **Force connectivity**

Chemical Assets
(OIF and OEF)

- **Chemical units not deployed by doctrinal rules of allocation**
  - **Some units disassociated from their parent organizations**
  - **Limited deployment of Chemical Bde and Bn HQs**
- **Flexible application of Chemical forces**
  - **Joint and multinational support**
  - **Assigned and supporting at higher echelons**
  - **Non-traditional missions and tasks**
- **Units separated by large distances and often not under traditional Army C2**
  - **Focus on Company Teams**
  - **See independently operating platoons**
  - **Disconnects in admin, maintenance, and repair parts**
  - **Demand for long-haul communications**

Chemical Assets
(OIF and OEF)

- **Rapid transitions in task organization, mission, and tasks**
  - **Multifunctional outlook**
  - **Security and force protection missions**
- **Post-conflict missions**

- ***"Without specialized equipment, Chemical soldiers are riflemen. We secured traffic control points; conducted dismounted patrols; secured key facilities; coordinated and provided security for the Brigade Support Area; and provided humanitarian assistance."***

One Company's Experience
(OIF)

- **Missions:**
  - Operational decon
  - Thorough decon
  - Patient decon
  - Smoke for crossing operation
  - NBC logistical supply
  - Fire fighting
  - Crash/rescue support
  - Fuel resupply
  - Training Joint and coalition for
  - Security and force protection

One Company's Experience
(OIF)

- **Changing C2:**
  - **Independent platoons**
  - **Independent Company Team**
  - **Under a Chemical Battalion HQ**
- **Incorporated Marine Corps assets**
- **Supported:**
  - **Marine forces**
  - **UK forces**
  - **HQ, CENTCOM**
  - **SOCCENT**
  - **ARCENT-QATAR**
  - **US Embassy, Qatar**

Evolving Operational Needs

- **Sensitive Site Exploitation or Elimination (SSE) – whether for WMD/CBRN or another objective – means different things in different operations**
  - **SSE is a combined arms operation**
  - **Role of Chemical units is still not clear**
  - **Specialized units will not always be available; maneuver forces require embedded "first responder" capabilities, such as presumptive analysis and sampling**
- **Desire for Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) and other specialized training for Chemical Soldiers is growing = increasingly multifunctional 74Ds (SSE, HAZMAT, etc)**
- **Application of robotics for special hazards, confined spaces, obscuration in urban areas**
- **Standoff detection and surveillance by air, including forcible entry**

Evolving Operational Needs

- Networked sensors and early warning
- Automated decision aids at company level
- HAZMAT-standard capabilities embedded in conventional Chemical units
  - Toxic industrial material (TIM) detection
  - Collateral installation force protection capability – homeland security and theater installations
- Integrated end-to-end recon and decon capabilities
  - Standard decontaminant(s)